

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A Mobile computing device that can operate both as a host or a device comprising:

a processor that can function as a USB controller configured to operate as a USB host or a USB device and is operationally coupled to a first power conversion circuit;

a housing having an expansion module bay for receiving an expansion module that includes an expansion card ~~a means for receiving an expansion card;~~

wherein the expansion card is operationally coupled to the mobile computing device via a first USB connector and a second USB connector positioned in the housing to mate with the first USB connector and the expansion card interfaces with a USB interface and a second power conversion circuit, which is coupled between the USB interface and the first USB connector; and the first and second USB connectors have a form factor that is different than a standard USB form factor; and at any given time only the first power conversion circuit or the second power conversion circuit performs power conversion.

2. (Cancelled) *

3. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the first and second connectors have a form factor that is smaller than a standard USB form factor.

4. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, further comprising a USB controller inside the housing of the mobile computing device.

5. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 4, wherein the USB controller is configured to function as a USB host.

6. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 4, wherein the USB controlled is configured to function as a USB device.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1, wherein the second power conversion circuit reduces the voltage of a signal on the first USB connector to a corresponding interface voltage and provides the reduced voltage to the interface if the voltage on the first USB connector is higher than the corresponding interface voltage.

9. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1, wherein the second power conversion circuit boosts the voltage of a signal on the first USB connector to a corresponding interface voltage and provides the boosted voltage to the interface if the voltage on the first second USB connector is less than the corresponding interface voltage.

10. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1, wherein the second power conversion circuit reduces the voltage of an interface signal to a voltage expected at the first connector and provides the reduced voltage to the first connector if the interface voltage is greater than expected.

11. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1, wherein the second power conversion circuit boosts the voltage of an interface signal to a voltage expected at the first connector and provides the boosted voltage to the first connector if the interface voltage is less than expected.

12. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1, further comprising a USB controller ~~and a conversion circuit~~ within the housing, and the first power conversion circuit coupled between the USB controller and the second USB connector.

13. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 12, wherein the first power conversion circuit reduces the voltage of a signal on the second USB connector to a corresponding controller voltage

and provides the reduced voltage to the controller if the voltage on the second USB connector is higher than the corresponding controller voltage.

14. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 12, wherein the first power conversion circuit boosts the voltage of a signal on the second USB connector to a corresponding controller voltage and provides the boosted voltage to the controller if the voltage on the second USB connector is less than the corresponding controller voltage.

15. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 12, wherein the first power conversion circuit reduces the voltage of a controller signal to a voltage expected at the second connector and provides the reduced voltage to the second connector if the controller voltage is greater than the corresponding voltage expected at the second connector.

16. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 12, wherein the first power conversion circuit boosts the voltage of a controller signal to a voltage expected at the second connector and provides the boosted voltage to the second connector if the controller voltage is less than the corresponding voltage expected at the second connector.

17. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, further comprising an adapter having a third connector that is connected to a fourth connector, the third connector being a USB connector having a standard USB form factor, the fourth connector configured to mate with one of the first and second connectors.

18. (Currently Amended) A Mobile computing device that can operate both as a host or a device comprising:

a housing having an expansion module bay for receiving an expansion module that includes an expansion card for receiving an expansion card ;

a processor that can function as a USB controller configured to operate as a USB host or a USB device within the housing and is operationally coupled to a first power conversion circuit;
and

a USB connector coupled to the USB controller; the USB connector positioned within the housing for operationally coupling the expansion card to the mobile computing device via a USB interface and a second power conversion circuit, wherein at any given time only the first power conversion circuit or the second power conversion circuit performs power conversion.

19. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 18, wherein the USB connector has a non-standard USB form factor.

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~18~~ 20, wherein the first power conversion circuit reduces the voltage of a signal on the USB connector to a corresponding controller voltage and provides the reduced voltage to the controller if the voltage on the USB connector is higher than that corresponding controller voltage.

22. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~18~~ 20, wherein the first power conversion circuit boosts the voltage of a signal on the USB connector to a corresponding controller voltage and provides the boosted voltage to the controller if the voltage on the USB connector is less than the corresponding controller voltage.

23. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~18~~ 20, wherein the first power conversion circuit reduces the voltage of controller signal to a voltage expected at the USB connector and provides the reduced voltage to the USB connector if the controller voltage is greater than the corresponding voltage expected at the USB connector.

24. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 18 20, wherein the first power conversion circuit boosts the voltage of a controller signal to a voltage expected at the USB connector and provides the boosted voltage to the USB connector if the controller voltage is less than the corresponding voltage expected at the USB connector.

25. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 18, wherein the USB controller is a USB host.

26. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 18, wherein the USB controller is a USB device.

27. (Currently Amended) A mobile personal digital assistant that can operate both as a USB host or a USB device comprising:

a housing having means an expansion module bay for receiving an expansion card;

a processor that can function as a USB controller configured to operate as a USB host or a USB device within the housing and is operationally coupled to a first power conversion circuit ; and

a USB connector for the USB controller; the USB connector being positioned within the housing to operationally couple the expansion card to the mobile personal digital assistant via a USB interface, ~~and another USB connector~~ and a second power conversion circuit, wherein at any given time only the first power conversion circuit or the second power conversion circuit performs power conversion.

28. (Currently Amended) An expansion module for a mobile device that can operate both as a USB host or a USB device, the expansion module comprising:

a USB interface coupled to a processor that can function as a USB controller configured to operate as a USB host or a USB device and is operationally coupled to a first power conversion circuit; and an expansion card coupled to the USB interface and a second power conversion

circuit for providing expansion module function; and a USB connector for the USB interface wherein at any given time only the first power conversion circuit or the second power conversion circuit performs power conversion.

29. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 28, wherein the USB connector has a non-standard USB form factor.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 28, wherein the second power conversion circuit reduces the voltage of a signal on the USB connector to a corresponding interface voltage and provides the reduced voltage to the interface if the voltage on the USB connector is higher than the corresponding expansion module voltage.

32. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 28, wherein the second power conversion circuit boosts the voltage of a signal on the USB connector to a corresponding interface voltage and provides the boosted voltage to the interface if the voltage on the USB connector is less than the corresponding expansion module voltage.

33. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 28, wherein the second power conversion circuit reduces the voltage of an interface signal to a voltage expected at the USB connector and provides the reduced voltage to the USB connector if the interface voltage is greater than the corresponding voltage expected at the USB connector.

34. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 28, wherein the second power conversion circuit boosts the voltage of an interface signal to a voltage expected at the USB connector and provides the boosted voltage to the USB connector if the interface voltage is less than the corresponding voltage expected at the USB connector.